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Title: Need to include agricultural areas of Alappuzha district in the Terms of Reference of the study on the Sustainable Development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-system assigned to Swaminathan Foundation.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (MAVELIKARA): The Government of India has approved a special rehabilitation package for the farmers in 31 districts in the country that includes Alappuzha District in Kerala besides four other districts. It is learnt that the Swaminathan Foundation has been assigned to study and report on the Sustainable Development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-System. From the Terms of Reference given to the Foundation, it is understood that the study is limited only to one part of Kuttanad. It is a fact that the agrarian crisis is felt across the district and farmers are facing severe financial crisis. The upper Kuttanad, Onattukara and Kari land are major agrarian areas of Alappuzha. The

*Not recorded.

coastal areas and the Pokkali rice fields are not free of the present crisis. The problems of the farming areas in Alleppy districts are inter-connected.

Hence I urge upon the Government to include the entire district in the Terms of Reference for the study.